

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 8036



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. GARY C. ALEJANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In a survey by the Social Weather Station (SWS) during the fourth quarter of 2017, 15.7 per cent or 7.2 million adults were jobless—the lowest rate in 13 years. 7.2 million, however, is still a considerably large number. It means that there are still millions of Filipinos struggling to provide for themselves financial stability and security; that there remain millions unable to find a viable means of subsistence.

Thus, this proposed measure aims to utilize idle or underutilized hands to allay the persistent problem of unemployment and underemployment, especially on rural areas. One million hectares of such lands will be converted into modern productive agricultural resources, planted with hybrid corn, cassava, and high value commercial crops. It is expected that at least a million rural jobs will be created and with annual farm incomes of at least Twenty Five Thousand Pesos shall be generated.

If excellently implemented, the country can expect a major reduction on rural poverty, unemployment, and underemployment.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


REP. GARY C. ALEJANO

HVCC	185,000	194,000
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1 **SEC. 5. Features of the Program.**—The program shall have the following features:

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3 **a) Modern Technology Systems.**—The program will consolidate existing crop areas
4 as well as idle prime lands into farm cluster modules for mechanized and/or irrigated
5 production of hybrid corn, cassava, and HVCC;

6
7 **b) Production Credit Support.**—To ensure the adoption of modern crop production
8 technologies, the program will enhance farmers' access to credit for the purchase of
9 production inputs through innovative credit schemes through the establishment of a
10 seed/guarantee fund for production loans to be extended by input suppliers, end-users,
11 traders, service providers, and the formal banking sector.

12
13 **c) Human Resource Development.**—The program shall train farmers on hybrid
14 technologies, farm mechanization, post-harvest and processing technologies and promote
15 local capacity-building in areas of participatory program management and implementation,
16 research and extension and agribusiness marketing management.

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18 **SEC. 6. Farmer-Agribusiness Tie-Ups.**—The DA shall participate arrangements between
19 farmers and agribusiness groups in the development of agricultural lands. Different business
20 partnership modalities shall be established between farmer cooperatives and the private sector to
21 provide ready markets, management and technical support, in whichever form most suitable for
22 rural development, including but not limited to purchase orders, service or management contracts,
23 contract growing or processing arrangements, lease agreements and joint venture agreements.

24
25 **SEC. 7. Quality Standards and Classification Systems.**—Quality standards and
26 classification systems shall be developed by the DA and implemented for feed grains, vegetables,
27 fibers, fruits, and industrial crops in order to ensure better prices and competitiveness of domestic
28 produce.

29
30 **SEC. 8. Joint Government-Private Sector Committee.**—A committee is hereby created,
31 consisting of the Secretary of Agriculture as Chairman, a representative of the private sector
32 involved in agriculture as Vice Chairman, two representative s of the farmer-beneficiaries, two
33 representatives of agribusiness companies involved in the program, and two officials of the DA as
34 members, all of which shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of the Philippines upon

1 recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture. The committee shall facilitate the assistance of the
2 private sector in the identification of farmer-beneficiaries, credit-channels, and market and service
3 providers and shall oversee the administration, management and implementation of the program.
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5 **SEC. 9. *Establishment of the Agricultural Development Fund.***—The Agricultural
6 Development Fund (the “fund”) is hereby established, in the amount of Pesos: Five Billion Five
7 Hundred Fifty One Million (P5,551,000,000.00) for the first year and Four Billion Seventy Eight
8 Million (P4,078,000,000.00) in the second year of the program. The fund shall be taken from the
9 budget allocation of the DA, and will be utilized for the provision of a seed/loan guarantee fund for
10 the production loans and direct government intervention in the provision of, among others, farm
11 machinery, and post-harvest facilities, farm-to-market roads, and human resource development
12 activities.
13

14 **SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.***—If any provision of this Act shall be declared
15 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions of this Act not otherwise affected, shall remain in
16 full force and effect.
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18 **SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.***—All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and all other
19 issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
20 accordingly.
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22 **SEC. 12. *Effectivity.***—This Act shall take effect following its publication in at least two (2)
23 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,